

Art Unit: 1797

24. (currently amended) A filter material comprising a blend of (a) polypropylene fibers, and (b) fibers of a second type with about 0.02 to less than about 0.1 weight percent of at least one extractable agent on outer surfaces thereof, said fibers being selected from a group consisting of acrylic and modacrylic, and wherein said at least one extractable agent is an agent used in a process to make fibers and is selected from a group consisting of lubricant and an anti-static agent.

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6/30/08
- Specification, page ³ 8, line 19, “[]” has been deleted.
 - In the abstract line 7, after “modacrylic.” the following sentence has been added. —At least one type of fibers includes an extractable agent on the outer surfaces thereof.—

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- In the internet communication of 6-11-2008, the Examiner presented a proposal for allowance that canceled claim 26, and also incorporated the subject matter of new claims 28, 30, 32, 34 and 36 into the independent claims; the scope of the term “extractables” was narrowed to those used in a process to make a fiber selected from one of lubricant and an anti-static agent; and the range of weight percent of the extractables was narrowed to be about 0.02 to about 0.1. The aforementioned attorney accepted the proposal.
- The closest cited art—Brown ‘850—fails to anticipate or render obvious, alone or in any proper combination, the aforementioned limitations in the filter material fiber blends of